THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON) : (a) (b) and (d) Government recognises the need to awaken our science and technology to the exciting challenges of our times, provide incentives to inventors and direct their efforts to the areas of special importance. Government encourages inventions in many forms. To promote the spirit of invention amongst scientists, workers, students and inventors, the National Research Development Corporation in the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (Ministry of Science and Technology) has a scheme of awarding prizes for the development of novel processes/products/inventions. NRDC also provides technical, legal and financial assistance to individual inventors. It is not essential for an inventor to have formal academic qualifications such as University Degree to obtain financial assistance or an award for the invention. While any one pursuing scientific goals or engaged in scientific activities may be considered as a "Scientist", recognised scientists do possess high academic qualifications. These are invariably required for positions, particularly of an academic nature, where the functions and duties call for these. It is entirely based on an assessment of the quality and value of the invention.

(c) The NRDC had on a few occasions provided financial assistance to Shri T. J. David for making improvements in his inventions as well as for filing a patent.

Report of Mishra Pay Committee

2137. SHRI N. E. BALARAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the High-Powered Mishra Pay Committee appointed to examine and deal with the scales of pay, fringe benefits and conditions of service of employees of 68 public sector undertakings on Central Government pay pattern since implementation of the third Central Pay Commission, have also dealt with the matters pertaining to recruitment, promotion and transfer policies being followed in these undertakings discriminately/ad-hoc basis, as dealt by the Fourth Pay Commission, for Central Government employees ;

(b) if so, what are the broad recommendations of the High-Powered Pay Committee relating to their service conditions, recruitment, promotion and transfer of the above-said employees and also the reaction of the concerned trade unions/associations, represented before the said Pay Commission ; and

(c) if the trade Unions/associations were not represented, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN) : (a) to (c) The High Power Pay Committee has not dealt with matters pertaining to recruitment, promotion and transfer policies of the employees of the Central Public Sector Undertakings, since the terms of the reference did not cover these aspects.

Machinery for Employees of Public Sector undertakings on the pattern of JCM of Central Government

2138. SHRI N. E. BALARAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exist any central Body of persons/Machinery for employees of 68 Public Sector Undertakings, on the pattern of Joint Consultative Machinery (JCM) of Central Government employees for taking their grievances/pay scale anomaly cases of these Public Sector employees consequent upon the